Claims

1   1.   A method of summarizing a search result abstract on a client computer
2   comprising the steps of:

3   initializing search parameters including defining a zoom level to define a search
4   window comprising one or more words within the search result abstract;

5   searching a first word within the search window to determine whether it is an
6   indexable word; and

7   adjusting the search parameters to move the search window throughout the search
8   result abstract until a last search window is searched for an indexable word.

1   2.   The method of claim 1 further includes the step of displaying all indexable
2   words found in the search result abstract.

1   3.   The method of claim 1 wherein the step of initializing search parameters further
2   includes engaging a zoom function.

1   4.   The method of claim 1 wherein the step of initializing search parameters further
2   includes setting a base index value.

1   5.   The method of claim 4 wherein the step of initializing search parameters further
2   includes setting the base index at an initial value of 1 such that a first word of the
3   search result abstract within the search window is determined to be an indexable word.

1   6.   The method of claim 1 wherein the step of initializing search parameters further
2   includes the step of setting an offset value.

1   7.   The method of claim 1 wherein the step of initializing search parameters further
2   includes the step of determining a maximum search window

8. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of initializing search parameters further includes the step of determining a skip value.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of searching the words within the search window for an indexable word comprises searching a word at a base index within the search window to determine whether the word at the base index is an indexable word.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of searching the word at the base index within the search window for an indexable word does not locate an indexable word, the method further includes the steps of:

setting an index at a word within the search window to a value equal to the base index and an offset value within a maximum search window;

determining whether the word at the index is an indexable word; and

determining whether to set the base index at the word to the index if the word at the index is an indexable word.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein the step of determining whether a word at the index is an indexable word does not locate an indexable word at the index, then the step of determining whether a random number within the maximum search window may be selected to obtain an another offset value occurs, the random number being greater than a negative value of the maximum search window and less than a value of the maximum search window.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the step of determining whether a random number within the maximum search window may be selected to obtain an another offset value does not indicate that a random number may be selected, then the step of adjusting the offset value until a new index is obtained occurs.

1   13.   The method of claim 10 further including the step of searching within a

2   subsequent search window for an indexable word.

1   14.   A method of locating indexable words within a search result abstract retrieved

2   from a search engine comprising the steps of:

3   assigning a sequential number to each word of the search result abstract;

4   determining a zoom level;

5   defining a maximum search window based on the zoom level;

6   setting a base index at a first word of the search result abstract wherein the base

7   index has an initial value of one, the base index being a focal point of the

8   maximum search window;

9   searching for an indexable word at the base index;

10   searching for an indexable word within the search window when the first word at

11   the base index is not an indexable word;

12   setting the base index at other words within the search window to establish a

13   subsequent search window and searching for indexable words within the

14   subsequent search window; and

15   displaying a condensed abstract comprising found indexable words in the search

16   result abstract.

1   15.   The method of claim 14 further including the step of determining whether to fix

2   the base index at a found indexable word as a basis for the step of setting the base index

3   at other words within a subsequent search window.

1   16.   The method of claim 14 wherein the step of searching for indexable words

2   within the search window comprises searching a number of words right and left of the

3   base index within the maximum search window for an indexable word.

1 17. The method of claim 14 wherein the step of setting the base index at other

2 words to establish a subsequent search window and searching for indexable words

3 within the subsequent window comprises adjusting the base index by a skip value to

4 obtain a new focal point for a subsequent search window.

1 18. The method of claim 14 wherein the step of setting the base index at other

2 words to establish a subsequent search window and searching for indexable words

3 within the subsequent window comprises adjusting the base index by an offset value to

4 obtain a new focal point for a subsequent search window when a word at the index is

5 not an indexable word.

1 19. A method of dynamically generating differing levels of detail in a search result

2 abstract on a user computer comprising the steps of:

3 engaging a zoom function;

4 determining a zoom level as set by a user of the user computer;

5 determining whether a random window flag is set;

6 assigning sequential numbers to each word of the search result abstract;

7 initially setting a base index at a first word of the search result abstract;

8 initially setting an offset value as a word at the base index;

9 determining a maximum search window based on a value of the zoom level;

10 determining a skip value based on the zoom level;

11 determining whether a fix base index flag is set;

12 searching a first maximum search window for an indexable word at the base index;

13 searching subsequent maximum search windows for an indexable word at an index

14 comprising the base index and the offset value;

15 determining whether the offset value is greater than a value of the maximum search

16 window wherein if the offset value is greater than the value of the maximum

17   search window, then setting the index at a word corresponding to a value of the

18   base index and the skip value;

19   determining whether a word at the index is an indexable word wherein if the word

20   at the index is not an indexable word, then adjusting the offset value such that

21   another word is at the index;

22   setting the base index to the indexable word at the index when the fix base index

23   flag is set; and

24   setting the index to the word corresponding to a value of the base index and the skip

25   value when the fix base index flag has not been set.

1   20.   The method of claim 19 wherein the step of adjusting the offset value comprises

2   the steps of:

3   picking a random number within the maximum search window having a value

4   greater than a negative value of the maximum search window and less than a

5   value of the maximum search window when the random window flag has not

6   been set;

7   determining whether the offset value is equal to zero if the random window flag has

8   not been set;

9   obtaining another offset value by increasing the offset value by one if the offset

10   value is determined to be equal to zero;

11   determining whether the offset value is greater than zero if the offset value is not

12   equal to zero;

13   obtaining another offset value by multiplying the offset value by negative one and

14   adding one if the offset value is greater than zero; and

15   obtaining another offset value by multiplying the offset value by negative one if the

16   offset value is less than zero.

1   21.   The method of claim 20 further including the step of continuing to search the

2   subsequent maximum search windows.

1   22.   An article of manufacture comprising:

2   a   computer usable medium having computer readable program code means

3   embodied therein for causing a computer to dynamically summarize a search

4   result abstract, the computer readable program code means in the article of

5   manufacture comprising

6   computer readable program code means for causing a computer to initialize search

7   parameters including defining a search window comprising one or more words

8   within the search result abstract;

9   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to search the

10   words within the search window for an indexable word; and

11   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to adjusting the

12   search parameters to move the search window throughout the search result

13   abstract until a last search window is searched for an indexable word.

1   23.   The article of claim 22 wherein the computer readable program code means for

2   causing the computer to search the words within the search window for an indexable

3   word further comprises:

4   computer readable program code means for causing a computer to set an index at a

5   word within the search window to a value equal to a base index and an offset

6   value when the computer readable program code means for causing the

7   computer to search the words within the search window for an indexable word

8   does not locate an indexable word;

9   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to determine

10   whether the offset value is greater than a maximum window value;

11   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to set the base

12   index to a value equal to the base index and a skip value if the offset value is

13   greater than a maximum window value;

14   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to determine

15   whether a word at the index is an indexable word if the offset value is not

16   greater than a maximum window value; and

17   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to determine

18   whether to set the base index at the word at the index if the word at the index is

19   an indexable word.

1   24.   The article of claim 23 wherein the computer readable program code means for

2   causing the computer to determine whether a word at the index is an indexable word

3   further comprises:

4   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to determine

5   whether a random number within the maximum search window may be selected

6   to obtain an another offset value occurs, the random number being greater than

7   a negative value of the maximum search window and less than a value of the

8   maximum search window.

1   25.   An article of manufacture comprising:

2   a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means

3   embodied therein for causing a computer to locate indexable words within a

4   search result abstract retrieved from a search engine, the computer readable

5   program code means in the article of manufacture comprising:

6   computer readable program code means for causing a computer to assign a

7   sequential number to each word of the search result abstract;

8   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to determine a

9   zoom level;

10   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to define a

11   maximum search window comprising one or more words based on the zoom

12   level;

13   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to set a base index

14   at a first word of the search result abstract wherein the base index has an initial

15   value of one, the base index being a focal point of the maximum search window;

16   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to search for an

17   indexable word at the base index;

18   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to search for an

19   indexable word within the search window when the first word at the base index

20   is not an indexable word;

21   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to set the base

22   index at other words to establish a subsequent search window and searching for

23   indexable words within the subsequent search window; and

24   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to display

25   indexable words in accordance with the zoom level.

1   26.   An article of manufacture comprising:

2   a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means

3   embodied therein for causing a computer to dynamically generate differing

4   levels of detain in a search result abstract, the computer readable program code

5   means in the article of manufacture comprising:

6   computer readable program code means for causing a computer to engage a zoom

7   function;

8   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to determine a

9   zoom level;

10   computer readable program code means for causing a computer to determine

11   whether a random window flag is set;

12   computer readable program code means for causing a computer to assign sequential

13   numbers to each word of the search result abstract;

14   computer readable program code means for causing a computer to initially set a

15   base index at a first word of the search result abstract;

16   computer readable program code means for causing a computer to initially set an

17   offset value as a word at the base index;

18   computer readable program code means for causing a computer to determine a

19   maximum search window based on a value of the zoom level, the maximum

20   search window;

21   computer readable program code means for causing a computer to determine a skip

22   value based on the zoom level, the skip value equal to one less than twice the

23   value of the zoom level;

24   computer readable program code means for causing a computer to determine

25   whether a fix base index flag is set;

26   computer readable program code means for causing a computer to search a first

27   maximum search window for an indexable word at the base index;

28   computer readable program code means for causing a computer to search

29   subsequent maximum search windows for an indexable word at an index

30   comprising the base index and the offset value;

31   computer readable program code means for causing a computer to determine

32   whether the offset value is greater than a value of the maximum search window

33   wherein if the offset value is greater than the value of the maximum search

34   window, then setting the index at a word corresponding to a value of the base

35   index and the skip value;

36   computer readable program code means for causing a computer to determine

37   whether a word at the index is an indexable word wherein if the word at the

38   index is not an indexable word, then to adjust the offset value such that the

39   index is set to another word;

40   computer readable program code means for causing a computer to set the base index

41   to the indexable word at the index when the fix base index flag is set; and

42   computer readable program code means for causing a computer to set the index to

43   the word corresponding to a value of the base index and the skip value when the

44   fix base index flag has not been set.

1   27.   The article of claim 26 wherein the computer readable program code means for

2   causing a computer to adjust the offset value such that the index is set to another word

3   comprises:

4   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to pick a random

5   number within the maximum search window having a value greater than a

6   negative value of the maximum search window and less than a value of the

7   maximum search window when the random window flag has not been set;

8   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to determine

9   whether the offset value is equal to zero if the random window flag has not been

10   set;

11   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to obtain another

12   offset value by increasing the offset value by one if the offset value is

13   determined to be equal to zero;

14   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to determine

15   whether the offset value is greater than zero if the offset value is not equal to

16   zero;

17   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to obtain another

18   offset value by multiplying the offset value by negative one and adding one if

19   the offset value is greater than zero; and

20   computer readable program code means for causing the computer to obtain another

21   offset value by multiplying the offset value by negative one if the offset value is

22   less than zero.